RECEIVED

0189

SEP 0 5 2001

7 MR. HATTER: My name is John Hatter. I am

550709

- 8 the Northern Nevada Chair for Citizen Alert. And here
- 9 we are again. Citizen Alert has not prepared detailed
- 10 technical comments on the documents, because we don't
- 11 really know what the basis is on making those
- 12 recommendations. As far as we know, there's outside
- 13 information that's not available to us, including a
- 14 presumably updated transportation analysis in the final
- 15 environmental impact statement. Which is not available
- 16 to us at this time. And therefore, it makes no sense
- 17 for us to make comments on documents where there's
- 18 incomplete recommendation. And as it's already been
- 19 mentioned, the guidelines for whether Yucca Mountain is
- 20 suitable or not are also in the proposed stage.
- Again, why should we comment on something
- 22 when it's not finalized, so we will not, I will not be
- 23 doing that Citizen Alert, they haven't done that for
- 24 that reason.
- The nuclear industry and the DOE would like

- 1 you to think that this is only about Nevada. It's not.
- 2 The transportation analysis is a critical part of what

- 3 should form the basis for the recommendation. If you
 4 can't transport, if you can't show that, demonstrate

 550709
- 5 the transportation is safe, and reasonable, then
- 6 therefore the project is also unreasonable. So that is
- 7 an important part of the basis, ought to be a part of
- 8 the basis, and it's not just a Nevada issue, because of
- 9 that. If not other reasons as well. Well, it's
- 10 getting pretty late. There's a lot of people that
- 11 haven't been here. As of about 9:30, there were 100
- 12 cars that Citizen Alert and volunteers counted that
- 13 left this parking lot who wanted to speak. We actually
- 14 asked that question to them. This is another reason
- 15 why we're very upset about this process. Why the DOE
- 16 could not have done this on several nights, two-hour
- 17 slots, I have no idea. I have talked to people here.
- 18 And all they do is go around in circles. It's
- 19 absolutely absurd.
- 20 (APPLAUSE)
- This project is worth billions of dollars.
- 22 Doesn't make any sense to me. And of course, as we
- 23 have said before, these hearings shouldn't even be
- 24 happening now anyway. The Department of Energy is not
- 25 ready to make a recommendation. They have not given

9/5/01

0191

- 1 the public all the information. So, they shouldn't
- 2 even have been done at this time anyway, and if they
- 3 were done, they needed to be done on more than one
- 4 night. It's absolutely ridiculous.
- 5 The people that did show up, and there were
- 6 quite a few people that did show up, which, as we know,
- 7 this venue was completely inadequate to handle. And
- 8 the Department of Energy should have been well aware of
- 9 that possibility. Back in 2000, when the Department of
- 10 Energy held hearings on the draft environmental impact
- 11 statement, there was also overflow crowds. And these
- 12 are the people that are going to calculate the
- 13 probabilities of doses for 10,000 years.
- 14 (LAUGHTER AND APPLAUSE)
- Doing the math. The main reason, the main
- 16 reason that people probably did show up at this
- 17 meeting, at least from our information, is because of
- 18 the outreach of the activist organizations and people
- 19 that work in those communities. That's why the people
- 20 are here. Not because of the Department of Energy's
- 21 advertising for this. We are doing the Department of
- 22 Energy's work. You are doing the Department of

23 Energy's work. And that should not be the case.

550709

- 24 Expect to receive a bill. Thank you.
- 25 (APPLAUSE)

- 1 MODERATOR BROWN: Okay, Bud Tangren?
- 2 MR. HATTER: That's I, sir. You know, I
- 3 thought Chicken Little had died a long time ago. But
- 4 tonight I have heard one after another after another
- 5 after another. And I'm almost a nervous wreck. The
- 6 sky is falling. And we will all die before the morning
- 7 gets here, I'm afraid.
- 8 I can't quite understand in this day of
- 9 enlightenment, how so many people can be so deluded,
- 10 and I've come to the conclusion that there's even --
- 11 there is either a tremendous amount of ignorance out
- 12 there, or there is a tremendous amount of hypocrisy.
- Now, I'll give you a little bit of my
- 14 background, as far as nuclear whatever goes. And it's
- 15 simple: I came to Nevada in 1950, from Utah. I came
- 16 here for one reason. To earn a living. And where
- 17 could I earn a living? I couldn't earn a living in
- 18 Utah, so I came to Nevada. Nevada was in the early
- 19 stages of the test site program. Now what they were

20 doing up there is their business, they're the big guys.

550709

- 21 I don't know about it. I've listened to a lot of stuff
- 22 here tonight. And I couldn't tell you one thing about
- 23 it, and I'd almost dare any one of you to explain it to
- 24 me, and you've all heard it also. But I went to work
- 25 at the Nevada test site.

- 1 Those were the early days of testing. We
- 2 were doing above-ground testing up there at that time.
- 3 And believe you me, I learned in a hurry about atomic
- 4 power. Because it is dangerous, and it is tremendous.
- 5 And I saw things that got blowed apart that I didn't
- 6 have an idea that you could touch with, well, whatever,
- 7 and I have worked around a lot of dynamite in my day
- 8 too. But these things are dangerous.
- 9 But they were built for a reason. We were in
- 10 a war. We'd used one of them, two of them, to end a
- 11 war. How many lives were saved over that, I don't
- 12 know. But that's a decision that your government made,
- 13 and as we live under a government here, we have to
- 14 abide by the rules. And those guys up there make the
- 15 rules. Don't ever think you or I do. Because you
- 16 don't. Consequently, they decided that atomic weaponry

17 was the best way to go. Beat the heck out of hacking 550709

- 18 people up with a knife or maybe shooting them through
- 19 the foot a few times, the belly with a gun. I don't
- 20 know. But it got it over with, and for that I was
- 21 thankful. I didn't get a chance to go myself, but I
- 22 had four brothers that went.
- 23 So, for that reason, and that reason alone,
- 24 now, it's gone on beyond that. And I think that the
- 25 spin-offs from the scientific community, as far as

- 1 nuclear, we are benefiting today.
- 2 Someone mentioned the fleet that is at sea
- 3 today, that protects this country from rogue countries
- 4 that would invade us perhaps, and cause more wars. For
- 5 40 years, we ran the cold war based on atomic weaponry,
- 6 and we had peace in that time. So it's not all bad, as
- 7 some have led us to believe. But we will pay the
- 8 price, folks. And that's what it's all about anyway,
- 9 is money.
- 10 I came here for money, and I dare say that
- 11 every one of you came here for about the same reason
- 12 that are still in the working class of people. And if
- 13 you didn't come here for money, then you had to come

14 here to retire. And if you came here to retire knowing

550709

- 15 that there was all this atomic dust and waste laying
- 16 within 50, 60 miles of your doorstep, you're either
- 17 crazier than hell or whatever. I don't know. You like
- 18 misery.
- 19 So I would invite all of you -- and there's
- 20 a million and a quarter of you living in this valley
- 21 today -- that if you don't like it, go back where you
- 22 came from, for crying out loud. No, but don't want to
- 23 go, do you? You like the climate, you like the money,
- 24 and you like the gambling and you like all the other
- 25 things. Pay for it then.

- 1 It just so happens we were picked, for
- 2 whatever reason, to have an explosion out there. Now
- 3 we've got to pay the price. So let's straighten up,
- 4 folks. It's money you're about, and if you don't think
- 5 that, then you either lie or you're hypocrites. Again,
- 6 because you came here for that. You're still here for
- 7 that. So let's don't try and deny it. And if it's
- 8 money that we need, and it's money you need, then I
- 9 have suggested for many years to Harry and all the rest
- 10 of those guys -- which by the way, Harry Reid has a

11 tendency to lie quite a bit to you. And you say
--

550709

- 12 bald faced on that screen tonight. As every one of you
- 13 had to go through three checkpoints and be searched
- 14 practically to get in here. I walked in here and never
- 15 had anybody say hello or good-bye or get out or
- 6 anything else. So that's a lie. And he's been --
- 17 doing it a long time.
- 18 MODERATOR BROWN: 30 seconds.
- MR. HATTER: All right, I want to tell these
- 20 people here that they're here for one reason. They
- 21 don't care about you and they don't care about me. The
- 22 one reason they're in existence is to spend your tax
- 23 money. That's the only reason that they're in
- 24 business. And they'll do it today, and they'll do it
- 25 tomorrow, and there is not one thing that you can do

- 1 about it. If you want to try and stop it, go to Harry
- 2 and the rest of those folks, because they are the ones
- 3 that provide the money for these people to do what they
- 4 do. Now if you have a beef about this whole thing, go
- 5 to Harry. Go to his buddies up there. Tell them to
- 6 stop spending your money, and this thing will come to a
- 7 halt. That's all I can tell you. Thank you.